

For Immediate Release September 22, 2017 Sen. Devin LeMahieu (608) 266-0656

Sen. Duey Stroebel (608) 266-7513

Rep. Jesse Kremer (608) 266-9175

Rep. Terry Katsma (608) 266-0656

Rep. Tyler Vorpagel (608) 266-8530

Area Legislators Fighting Back Against Unfair Nonattainment Rules

Madison—All the state legislators who represent Sheboygan County—Senator Devin LeMahieu (R–Oostburg), Senator Duey Stroebel (R–Cedarburg), Representative Jesse Kremer (R–Kewaskum), Representative Terry Katsma (R–Oostburg) and Representative Tyler Vorpagel (R–Plymouth)—unveiled legislation this week to put a stop to the federal Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) unfair classification of Sheboygan County as an air quality nonattainment zone.

"The scientific data is on our side," explained the legislators. "Sheboygan County is fully compliant with federal clean air standards. We have proved it. Our businesses have made enormous strides over the past decade to further reduce pollutant emissions. But we are still being penalized for a problem that we aren't causing and can't possibly fix."

Lake Michigan is known to be an "ozone cooker," where pollutants generated in other states collect and interact in sunlight to form ozone. Two air quality monitoring stations operate in Sheboygan County. Unsurprisingly, the one that is sited to measure ozone coming off the Lake from Illinois and Indiana shows high ozone readings; the one that is sited to measure Sheboygan County's share of the pollution shows normal readings.

The EPA understands this but chooses to use only the high readings to justify punishing Sheboygan County with extra pollution-control requirements for area businesses, extra costs, extra delays and even government bans on new business growth.

The team of Sheboygan County legislators have cooperated to introduce a fix that would revise the federally-mandated state air quality monitoring plan so that the unfair data coming from other states' pollution cannot be used unreasonably against Sheboygan County any longer.



The proposed legislation is to be formally introduced next week and is expected to receive a public hearing later this fall.

For more information about the EPA's burdensome regulations governing Sheboygan County, please see the Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty's recent documentary video accessible online at http://www.will-law.org/will-video-epa-regulations-making-sheboygan-no-growth-zone/.

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